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## Communicating with our customers during a flood event



Development along the banks of the Green River

The DDES building at 900 Oakesdale Ave. SW in Renton could potentially be evacuated during a major Green River flood event.

With that in mind, DDES has been doing a great deal of planning to ensure business continuity and recovery in the event that our building is closed temporarily or for an extended time frame.

As a permit customer or property owner, it is important that you are able to access accurate emergency information about DDES and our operations as soon as possible. Our primary tool for

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## DDES and MBA University offer workshops for real estate and development professionals

### Residential Permitting and Code Enforcement Processes in Unincorporated King County, Nov. 19 and Dec. 3, 2009

DDES and the Master Builders Association (MBA) of King and Snohomish Counties are partnering to offer a workshop for the real estate and development community on residential building permit and code enforcement processes in unincorporated King County. Five hours of real estate continuing education credits will be awarded for completing the workshop.

The workshop is offered on two separate dates: The first is November 19, 2009, and the second is December 3, 2009. Both workshops will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Master Builders Association Housing Center in Bellevue.

The purpose of the workshop is to educate real estate agents and development professionals about

- the permit review process for single family construction in unincorporated King County.
- steps property owners can take to make the permit process flow smoothly and save on permitting costs.
- how code enforcement violations can be most effectively removed from a property prior to sale.
- how to most effectively conduct research, zoning and allowed uses on a parcel.

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## Rainy season: DDES inspectors take proactive steps to protect waterways

Monitoring erosion and sediment control measures, or preventing muddy, silty runoff from leaving construction sites and leaching into streams and waterways, is a major responsibility for DDES building and land use inspectors, especially during the rainy months in unincorporated King County.

Each fall, DDES publishes information on erosion and sediment control requirements for wet season construction sites via the DDES Web site at [www.kingcounty.gov/permits](http://www.kingcounty.gov/permits) and enforces these more stringent requirements during building, land use, and grading inspections.

Erosion and sediment control enforcement is a major element of the environmental responsibilities fulfilled by DDES in the context of the permitting process.

The erosion and sediment control requirements published on the DDES Web site have been compiled to inform the building industry of current regulations, practices, and restrictions during the wet season, which runs between October 1 and April 30 each year in unincorporated King County.

DDES Director Stephanie Warden commented, "It is important for the public to be aware that DDES provides this valuable service during the building and land use inspection processes."

"Not only does DDES inspect new construction for physical integrity, we are also inspecting to ensure that negative downstream consequences from new construction do not occur. All of this work is done within the context of existing building and land use codes."

Stephanie Warden commented further, "While DDES is a regulatory agency with specific responsibilities to enforce erosion and sediment control measures on construction sites, we make every effort to partner with the building community to achieve compliance."



Even though the sun is out, this developer has installed appropriate cover measures (straw mulch) in preparation for the rainy season.

"DDES provides a great deal of educational literature to builders and developers each fall, and there is always a conference on site between the inspector and the builder before construction begins. These measures ensure good communication and effective partnership between local government and builders and developers."

DDES is committed to an effective erosion and sediment control program to protect our streams, lakes, wetlands, and the aquatic species that inhabit them. Additional technical assistance for erosion control on project sites is available.

DDES inspection staff are also available to offer suggestions to help builders and developers stay in compliance with code and permit conditions.

**For additional details, or to tour a construction site with erosion and sediment control measures in place, contact [Bernard Moore](#), DDES Building Inspections Supervisor, at 206-296-6762, or [Paula Adams](#), Public Information and Records Officer, at 206-296-6682.**

## Winter safety tips from the King County Fire Marshal

In the winter season, citizens are reminded to always follow safety precautions as they utilize any number of techniques to heat their homes.

### Space heaters

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has worked to upgrade industry standards for electric, kerosene, and gas space heaters. An automatic shut-off device is now required to turn off electric or kerosene heaters if they tip over.

More guarding around the heating coils of electric heaters and the burner of kerosene heaters also is required to prevent fires. With these changes in mind, it is a good investment to buy a new, modern space heater and throw away older models, even if they still function.

Always place the heater on a level, hard and nonflammable surface. Keep the heater at least three feet from bedding, drapes, furniture, or other flammable materials. Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep, or place a space heater close to any sleeping person.

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## Code Enforcement is helping communities: Demolition of vacant motel and tavern significantly improves MLK Jr. Way S.

King County Code Enforcement is a function within the Department of Development and Environmental Services.

Code Enforcement officers investigate complaints of unlawful and hazardous developments and land uses. They respond to reported violations associated with zoning, housing, building, shorelines, and critical areas.

The work conducted by Code Enforcement yields many positive results in our community. Properties that are used in a manner inconsistent with the applied zoning can cause visual blight in neighborhoods, disturb traffic patterns, and also injure the natural environment.

Complaints about junk cars are among the most frequent calls made to Code Enforcement. These sites are visually disturbing to neighbors and can affect nearby property sales. The oil and other fluids associated with junk cars can also leach into the ground, contaminating the soil.

One example of Code Enforcement's success in improving a neighborhood is the removal of an old vacant structure formally known as the Windy Crest Motel and Bill's Tavern at 12914 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South. This property had become a dumping ground for junk cars and garbage, and the old motel and tavern had deteriorated badly.

Code Enforcement received the first complaint on this property in 2004, after which an investigation was started and the owner was contacted. The property was temporarily cleaned up and Tent City obtained a permit to locate there in early 2006. However, after Tent City left, the property again declined into a dumping ground.

In October 2007, the owner was issued a Notice and Order that set deadlines to clean up and secure the property and to ultimately demolish the structures.

The owner appealed and a hearing was held on January 15, 2008. Two days later, the Hearing Examiner issued a decision that ordered the owner to comply with the Notice and Order, but extended the deadlines.

The deadlines passed and the property was still not in compliance. Civil penalties were issued and lienied against the property.

In August 2008, the case was referred to the King County Prosecutor's Office to obtain an injunction from Superior Court, providing Code Enforcement with the legal authority to clean up the property.

After the injunction was secured, the Prosecutor's Office, the Code Enforcement Abatement Manager, and the property owner developed an agreement to clean up the property and demolish the structures. The pictures shown below illustrate the ultimate improvement.

While the Code Enforcement process can be lengthy due to many necessary checks and balances, it is ultimately effective and can have positive impacts on neighborhoods and communities.

**For additional information on the code enforcement process, contact [Deidre Andrus](#), DDES Code Enforcement Supervisor, at 206-296-6656.**



12914 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South before Code Enforcement actions and after Code Enforcement abatement.

## Code Enforcement activates new citation process: Property owners can resolve violations faster, more efficiently

King County Code Enforcement has activated a new citation process for simple code violations that can be easily resolved. The program was tested during the month of September and fully activated on October 1, 2009.

The pilot phase involved Code Enforcement Officers issuing citations without the associated fines; the fully operational program activated the civil fines.

Examples of simple violations include: parking or storage of vehicles on non-impervious (unimproved) surfaces; or excessive amounts of inoperable vehicles, vehicle parts, assorted rubbish, salvage, and debris.

The citation process brings efficiency to the code enforcement process by offering property owners the option of paying a civil fine and cleaning up the property in a timely manner, rather than engaging the full code enforcement process. The full process can be lengthy, time consuming and, in the long term, costly to the property owner.

The initial results with the new citation program are encouraging. In one instance, Code Enforcement issued citations at seven locations along Novelty Hill Road in the Redmond area due to complaints from a community group about development signs that did not meet County Code.

All of the reported signs were placed without permits and could not have been permitted given their locations. At the end of a two-week period, all but one sign had been removed.

Code Enforcement officers strive to work in partnership with property owners and resolve code enforcement violations as quickly as possible.

**For more information about the new Code Enforcement citation process, contact [Deidre Andrus](#), Code Enforcement Supervisor, at 206-296-6656.**

## DDES staff walk to raise funds for American Heart Association



Puget Sound Heart Walk participants from DDES, left to right: Manisha Walia, Narinder Walia, Stephanie Warden, Steve Bottheim, Dave Cole, Curt Foster, Jean Foster, Bernard Moore.

Congratulations to several DDES staff who participated in the Puget Sound Heart Walk on October 3, 2009 and raised over \$1,300 for the American Heart Association.

In addition to quality permit reviews that benefit the environment and public safety, DDES staff are also helping our local communities during their non-work hours.

The DDES employees who raised money for this year's Puget Sound Heart Walk included: Laura McCollum Wallace; Angelica Velasquez; Narinder Walia and her daughter, Manisha; Stephanie Warden; Steve Bottheim; Dave Cole; Curt Foster and his wife, Jean; and Bernard Moore.

Thank you to these and other DDES staff who make DDES a good place to work - and our local communities better places to live!

## New program assists property owners with minor environmental violations: DDES offers reduced fees and enhanced technical assistance



As a result of the Code Enforcement Cooperative Agreement Program, this property owner will replant trees to restore the wetland buffer area.

Property owners in unincorporated King County now have an easy, straightforward mechanism for correcting minor environmental violations on their property.

DDES has launched a new program to reduce the burdens of time and expense for property owners who have inadvertently cleared into critical areas and caused minor environmental damage on their property.

DDES code enforcement and permit review processes are well-positioned to address code enforcement cases and permit applications relating to major clearing violations. Nevertheless, these processes can be expensive and time consuming.

This new program offers assistance to first-time violators who accidentally infringe into critical areas in only a minor way. An example of a small violation that could qualify for the new program is clearing less than 5,000 square feet of vegetation in a wetland buffer.

These smaller violations usually can be easily corrected, and property owners now have a quicker and more efficient option available.

### Code Enforcement Cooperative Agreement Program

The Code Enforcement Cooperative Agreement Program allows property owners and DDES to partner and restore damaged critical areas as quickly as possible.

Under the agreement, the property owner agrees to:

- Implement a DDES-approved restoration plan developed for the property.
- Conduct activities on the property in a manner consistent with the restoration plan and/or best management practices.
- Contact a DDES representative when deviation from the approved plan is required or proposed.
- Perform long-term stewardship of the critical areas on the parcel.

While DDES agrees to:

- Assist the property owner in obtaining a clearing and grading permit and/or preparing a restoration plan to bring the property into compliance with [King County Code](#) 21A.24 (Critical Areas Code) and King County Code 16.82 (Clearing and Grading Code).
- Reduce the normal permitting fees in exchange for property owner cooperation throughout the permit process.
- Provide the property owner with resource information, technical assistance, and other assistance to educate them about long-term stewardship of the property.

DDES staff developed the Code Enforcement Cooperative Agreement Program with the novice permit applicant in mind.

The program reduces the time and expense associated with bringing property into compliance with critical areas codes when minor, inadvertent damage has occurred. The program is also aimed at speeding up restoration and mitigation and maintaining healthy environmental conditions throughout the region.

**For additional information on the Code Enforcement Cooperative Agreement Program, please contact [Pesha Klein](#), DDES Critical Areas Section Supervisor, at 206-296-7274 or [Doug Dobkins](#), Site Development Services Supervisor, at 206-296-7087.**

## DDES permit process assists agricultural property owners

Property owners living in the rural areas of King County often inquire about requirements for constructing agricultural buildings.

Permit fees are reduced for agricultural buildings located on properties within an Agricultural Production District (APD), and for properties zoned rural residential (RA), if a farm management plan is prepared and approved by the [King Conservation District](#) (external link).

The King Conservation District, conveniently located near DDES offices, is at 1107 SW Grady Way, Suite 130 in Renton. The District can be reached by telephone at 425-282-1897.

Below are answers to the most common questions about the permit process DDES receives from agricultural property owners.

### What is the definition of an "agricultural building"?

Agricultural buildings are structures designed for farming and agricultural practices, including but not limited to: growing and harvesting of crops and raising livestock and small animals.

Specific examples of agricultural buildings include:

- barns
- greenhouses
- storage buildings for farm equipment, animal supplies, or feed
- storage buildings for equipment used to implement farming and/or agricultural practices
- cold storage buildings for crops grown and raised on site.



Permit fees are reduced for agricultural buildings located on properties within an Agricultural Production District (APD), and for properties zoned rural residential (RA), if a farm management plan is prepared and approved by the King Conservation District.

### Is a building permit required for an agricultural building?

Yes. DDES issues building permits and enforces building standards which are unique to agricultural buildings (e.g., design standards for wind and roof loads, allowable area and fire code provisions).

If the proposed use exceeds that of an agricultural building (e.g., public riding arenas, sales areas, etc.), more stringent standards may be applied.

As mentioned above, permit fees are reduced for agricultural buildings located on properties within an Agricultural Production District and for properties zoned rural residential (RA) with a farm management plan prepared and approved by the King Conservation District.

### What are the application requirements for an agricultural building?

DDES Customer Information Bulletin #9, [Obtaining a Residential Building Permit](#), describes the submittal requirements for a building permit, and is available online with many other useful bulletins at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/publications/bulletins.aspx>.

If a proposed use on an agricultural property would include the public or employees, customers should see the submittal requirements outlined in DDES Customer Information Bulletin #8, [Commercial and Multifamily Building Permits](#).

### In what zoning classifications are agricultural uses allowed?

Agricultural uses are allowed in most of the rural area of unincorporated King County. This includes properties zoned Agricultural (A) and Rural Area (RA).

- For agricultural product sales, the permitted use table is found in 21A.08.070 of the [King County Code](#) (K.C.C.).
- For growing and harvesting crops and raising livestock and small animals, see K.C.C. 21A.08.090.
- For stables (as defined in K.C.C. 21A.06.1220), see K.C.C. 21A.08.050.

The full text of the King County Code is available online at [http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/legislation/kc\\_code.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/legislation/kc_code.aspx).

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## Voluntary project management offers first-time permit applicants predictability and efficiency during the permit review process



A project manager provides a single point of contact for applicants and carefully monitors the permit review process.

DDES has used project managers over the last several years to ensure good communication between the department and permit applicants during the permit review process for large, complicated permit types.

While project management is mandatory for larger, more complex permit types such as subdivisions and commercial construction, it is not required for smaller projects such as custom homes.

DDES has received feedback from permit customers, however, that project management could be helpful to customers for these smaller projects.

Permit applicants for smaller projects may now request to have their permit application project managed, in order to take advantage of the same efficiencies noted above.

The Voluntary Project Management Program is designed to offer applicants with smaller, less complex projects the benefits of an enhanced level of customer service and project monitoring.

Customers with permits that are project managed have a single point of contact at DDES who is assigned to carefully monitor the permit review process.

DDES project managers charge an hourly fee for their service, but those fees are usually well spent given the gained efficiencies and shorter turn-around times for both the applicant and DDES review staff.

Since permits under voluntary project management are smaller and less complex, the maximum amount of project manager time charged is five hours.

The first step in initiating the project management process is the preparation of a Fee Estimate for the specific permit proposal. This Fee Estimate provides the applicant with a predictable fee amount and submittal requirements for permit intake. (This Fee Estimate process does not provide any feedback or comments from DDES staff on the permit review itself.)

The Fee Estimate process and any preparation or follow-up time will be charged at the current DDES hourly rate for each staff member involved. This process is also separate from the project management fees (capped at five hours).

**For additional information on voluntary project management at DDES, please contact Current Planning Supervisor [Steve Bottheim](#) at 206-296-7144.**

## Winter safety tips from the Fire Marshal, continued

(Continued from page 2)

Turn the space heater off if you leave the area. Always keep children and pets away from space heaters.

### Fireplace safety

Always have flues and chimneys inspected before each heating season for leakage and blockage caused by creosote or debris. Open the fireplace damper before lighting the fire and keep it open until the ashes are cool. This will avert the build up of poisonous gases, especially while the family is sleeping.

Never use gasoline, charcoal lighter or other fuel to light or relight a fire because the vapors can explode. Never keep flammable fuels or materials near a fire. Keep a screen or glass enclosure around a fireplace to prevent sparks or embers from igniting flammable materials.

The King County Fire Marshal's Web site contains a great deal of information on seasonal safety tips and fire precautions. For more detail, go to [www.kingcounty.gov/fire](http://www.kingcounty.gov/fire).

**For questions or additional information, please contact the DDES Fire Marshal Division at 206-296-6675.**

## More than just another regulatory agency— DDES walks the green building talk



The DDES building at Black River business park in Renton

Taxpayer savings are just a few of the benefits for King County residents as a result of recent energy and sustainability improvements at the county's Department of Development and Environmental Services building at 900 Oakesdale Ave. S.W. in Renton. (Directions are online at [www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/about/ddesmap.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/about/ddesmap.aspx).)

A number of upgrades to building operations and maintenance processes have been made to the facility that helped earn a High Energy Star rating as set by the United States Green Building Council.

The rating is the first step in the process for earning a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, which can be awarded for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. DDES is also testing a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle for field work (see sidebar).

**Economic, Environmental, Social benefits:** Improvements in energy performance have already been realized at the Renton facility, with the move this past spring to a four-day-per-week work schedule.

The building's energy performance rating provided by Portfolio Manager, a joint program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy, has risen three points since December to its current level of 85. This rating indicates that the building performs better than 85 percent of all similar buildings nationwide.

DDES has set out to attain LEED-Gold certification for its ongoing operations at the Renton facility. The 74,280 square-foot building, with over 300 King County employees, is also home to a Department of Assessments field office and Community Environmental Health.

Over the next several months, a team of stakeholders will make additional improvements in building maintenance policies and procedures with the goal of cutting costs and reducing the overall environmental impact of the building,

and also providing a more comfortable and healthful indoor environment for employees and visitors. The certification builds on the green construction and building maintenance techniques promoted through the DDES permit process - many of which have come to life in the agency's daily operations.

"We are realizing tangible environmental and economic benefits for the county through these projects," said DDES Deputy Director Joe Miles. "LEED certification for the DDES/Black River building is an example where 'green equals green,' meaning, doing the right thing environmentally will also save DDES taxpayer dollars in the form of reduced energy costs."

For more information on the DDES LEED certification effort, contact [Joe Miles](#), DDES Deputy Director, at 206-296-7179.

### Hybrid-electric vehicles

In addition to the LEED certification efforts, DDES critical areas field staff have been testing a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle for field work.

King County has converted four existing Toyota Priuses to Plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles as part of a joint research project with Idaho National Labs and three other regional agencies: the City of Seattle, the Port of Seattle, and the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

The critical areas section is testing one of these four vehicles to assess their effectiveness for field work throughout unincorporated King County. This research will collect valuable performance data that will lead to better electric vehicle technology.

Plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) technology has the potential to dramatically reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions by moving vehicles away from gasoline and fossil fuels to cleaner alternative energy.

The Puget Sound region is well suited to spearhead the use of electricity as a clean alternative energy source because much of the electricity produced in this region comes from hydropower.

"DDES is proud to test and demonstrate the newest technologies associated with environmental protection in the context of building and land use," said DDES Director Stephanie Warden.

"Our use of the hybrid-electric vehicle in the field is providing very useful data that will eventually revolutionize the transportation industry and helps us better understand what residents face in working to reduce the environmental impacts of projects. This also relates to building and land use because materials must be moved over large distances to support the construction and development of all kinds."

## DDES offers incentives for LEED-certified residential permit proposals

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a national third-party certification system that recognizes leadership in green building. It has been developed through a consensus process by volunteer members of the US Green Building Council.

First introduced in March 2000 for new commercial construction, LEED has since grown to include specialized certifications for single-family homes and other building types.

More than 3.2 billion square feet of real estate in the U.S. and around the world are currently pursuing LEED certification.

LEED for Homes, which launched in February 2008, measures green homebuilding performance based on eight categories:

1. Site selection
2. Water efficiency
3. Materials and resources
4. Energy and atmosphere
5. Indoor environmental quality
6. Location and linkages
7. Awareness and education
8. Innovation.

LEED has four levels of certification: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum, with Platinum representing the highest level of achievement.

Residential projects achieving a LEED certification receive priority processing at DDES, as well as a customized review schedule with an assigned project manager at no extra charge.

The permit processing incentives associated with a LEED certification are as follows:

- LEED Gold or Platinum for a single family home under 1,500 square feet receives priority processing and eight hours of free project management.
- LEED Gold or Platinum for single family home under 5,000 square feet receives priority processing and five hours of free project management.
- LEED Silver for a single family home under 5,000 square feet receives priority processing and three hours of free project management.

Check out [www.usgbc.org/LEED/homes](http://www.usgbc.org/LEED/homes) to download the LEED for Homes rating system and checklist. These documents are an easy way to learn about the program.

**For more information on LEED certification as it applies to the DDES permit process, please contact DDES Program Manager Cynthia Moffitt at 206-296-6792 or e-mail [cynthia.moffitt@kingcounty.gov](mailto:cynthia.moffitt@kingcounty.gov).**

## The benefits of LEED-certified homes

### A cost-efficient home

- The net cost of owning a green home is comparable to – and can even be less expensive than – owning a standard home.
- Month to month, people who live in green homes save money by consuming less energy and less water than standard homes. Over the years, that adds up to big savings.
- Soon it will cost less to insure a green home than a standard home. An increasing number of insurance companies are offering discounts on policies covering green homes. Similarly, mortgage companies are beginning to offer discounted loan rates for homebuyers buying green.
- A green home is often more durable than most standard homes because of its high-quality building materials and construction processes, requiring fewer repairs.
- The value of a green home is often higher than that of a comparable standard home, and the market demand for green homes continues to rise.

### A healthier home

- Green homes' use of toxin-free building materials helps combat indoor air pollution, which can be much worse than outdoor pollution.
- Natural ventilation in green homes, as well as use of mechanical ventilation systems to filter and bring fresh air inside and vent stale air outside, keep residents breathing easy.

### An environmentally-friendly home

- Residential cooling and heating make up 20% of the United States' annual energy use. Throw in household lighting, appliances and other electronic equipment, and homes are clearly a major source of energy consumption. Green homes use 40% less energy than comparable standard homes.
- Some green homes further reduce our dependence on conventional energy sources as they generate some or all of their energy needs through alternative energy sources like the sun, wind, geothermal energy and biomass.
- Efficient plumbing and bathing fixtures, drought-tolerant landscaping, and water-conserving irrigation systems help green homes use less water than standard homes.
- Far fewer natural resources are used in the construction of a green home. Many green building materials have significant recycled content. Some companies, for example, now make carpets and floor tiles from recycled tires and bottles. Green homes can also be constructed with salvaged materials from demolished buildings. Materials made from rapidly renewable materials like bamboo, hemp, agrifibers and soybean-based products are typically used.
- Building a standard 2,500-square-foot home creates about two tons of construction waste that ends up in landfills. Construction of a green home, however, should generate much less.

## Black River Community Service Center reopens at DDES Permit Center

DDES enthusiastically welcomes one of the King County community service centers back into the main DDES building at 900 Oakesdale Ave. SW in Renton!

The Black River Community Service Center is located inside the DDES Permit Center, and is open Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. (closed 2 – 2:30 p.m. for lunch).

To contact the Black River Community Service Center staff in Renton, simply call 206-296-7810.

### The Black River Community Service Center offers the following services:

- Marriage licensing
- Pet licensing
- Domestic Partnership application
- Concealed pistol license renewal
- U.S. Passport application
- Property tax payment
- Voter registration
- General county services.

## DDES assists agricultural property owners, continued

(Continued from page 6)

Some of the conditions for agricultural practices may include: limitations on the size and sales and/or storage areas and hours of operation; requirements for annual sales projections from products grown or produced in King County; or limitations on signs and lighting.

### What are the required setbacks from property lines?

For complete details, see K.C.C. 21A.12.122 Setbacks - Livestock buildings and manure storage areas. Some general guidelines are noted below:

- The minimum setback from interior property lines for any building used to house, confine or feed swine shall be 90 feet.
- The minimum setback from interior property lines for any building used to house, confine or feed any other livestock shall be 25 feet.
- The minimum setback from interior property lines for any manure storage area shall be 35 feet.
- The typical street setback is 30 feet.

More restrictive setbacks may apply for sites impacted by critical areas.

For more about permitting services offered to rural property owners, contact Fereshteh Dehkordi in the DDES Permit Center at 206-296-7173 or e-mail [fereshteh.dehkordi@kingcounty.gov](mailto:fereshteh.dehkordi@kingcounty.gov).

## King County publishes monthly newsletter for rural property owners



For the last several months, King County departments have collaborated to produce an electronic newsletter designed specifically for rural property owners.

*Unincorporated Area Community News* highlights the latest King County initiatives. The newsletter also highlights

King County services that are critical to residents in the unincorporated portions of King County.

To see the latest edition of *Unincorporated Area Community News*, or to put yourself on the e-distribution list, go to: <http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/newsletters/ua-news.htm>.

## Permit Center services video now online



DDES has created a video to give customers a brief overview of the extensive services and expertise available at the DDES Permit Center in Renton.

Anyone interested in building or land use permits for property in unincorporated King County can now watch this five-minute video to quickly learn about the permit process.

The video is in Windows Media format and can be viewed online using Windows Media Player.

For online viewing, be sure that Windows Media Player has already been installed on your computer, then click on [permit services overview video](http://king.granicus.com/ASX.php?publish_id=206&sn=king.granicus.com) or go to [http://king.granicus.com/ASX.php?publish\\_id=206&sn=king.granicus.com](http://king.granicus.com/ASX.php?publish_id=206&sn=king.granicus.com).

To install a free download of Windows Media Player, see [www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx](http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx).

### Would you like to comment on DDES Quarterly News?

We want your feedback! Please contact:

Paula Adams  
Public Information and Records Officer  
Telephone: 206-296-6682  
E-mail: [paula.adams@kingcounty.gov](mailto:paula.adams@kingcounty.gov)

## Customer service numbers

### Director's Office

Director  
Stephanie Warden ..... 206-296-6700  
Deputy Director  
Joe Miles ..... 206-296-7179  
Public Information and Records Officer  
Paula Adams ..... 206-296-6682  
Human Resources Service Delivery Manager  
Lance King ..... 206-296-6612  
Human Resources Manager  
Kathy Graves ..... 206-296-6725

### Administrative Services Division

Finance Management Supervisor  
Elaine Gregory ..... 206-296-7139  
Information Systems Supervisor  
Tom McBroom ..... 206-296-6706

### Building Services Division

Division Director  
Jim Chan ..... 206-296-6740  
Permit Center Supervisor  
Jarrod Lewis ..... 206-296-6713  
Building Review  
Chris Ricketts ..... 206-296-6750  
Building Inspections Supervisor  
Bernard Moore ..... 206-296-6762  
Code Enforcement Supervisor  
Deidre Andrus ..... 206-296-6656

### Fire Marshal Division

Fire Marshal  
John Klopfenstein ..... 206-296-7071

### Land Use Services Division

Division Director  
Randy Sandin ..... 206-296-6778  
Site Development Services Supervisor  
Doug Dobkins ..... 206-296-7087  
Engineering Review Supervisor  
Molly Johnson ..... 206-296-7178  
Current Planning Supervisor  
Steve Bottheim ..... 206-296-7144  
Critical Areas Supervisor  
Pesha Klein ..... 206-296-7274  
Land Use Inspections Supervisor  
Steve Townsend ..... 206-296-7204

### Customer Service Numbers

DDES customer information line ..... 206-296-6600  
Permit application appointments ..... 206-296-6797  
Code Enforcement ..... 206-296-6680  
DDES Records Center ..... 206-296-6696  
DDES billing hotline ..... 206-296-6659

Communicating with our customers during a flood event, continued

(Continued from page 1)

communicating with customers will be the DDES Web site at [www.kingcounty.gov/permits](http://www.kingcounty.gov/permits), since the servers that operate our Web site are located away from the flood danger.

In addition, we will be sending messages through the King County Twitter account. We will also use KIRO, KOMO, and KUOW radio stations to send emergency messages, and will of course be working with local and regional newspapers.

The DDES Web site will have the most detailed information, however, and DDES communications staff have completed emergency planning to ensure that the Web site is updated often during any flood emergency.

If you have questions or need additional information about DDES emergency communications to permit customers and other property owners, contact [Paula Adams](#), DDES Public Information and Records Officer, at 206-296-6682.

Workshop for real estate and development professionals, continued

(Continued from page 1)

This workshop provides an opportunity to

- learn how to most accurately advise clients about the residential permit process.
- learn how to organize permit application materials in a way that takes property owners through the permit application review phase quickly and efficiently.
- learn how to most efficiently remove a code enforcement violation from a parcel in order to expedite a sale.
- learn how to conduct effective, online property research, including using the King County Zoning and Allowed Use tables, verifying jurisdiction, and accessing the quality customer assistance literature available to property owners.
- secure five hours of real estate continuing education credits.

Registration process

Registration is through MBA University. Pre-registration is required. To register, either

- go online to <https://services.masterbuildersinfo.com/PortalTools/Login.cfm>
- print a registration form at [www.mbaks.com/library/download\\_forms/GenRegForm.pdf](http://www.mbaks.com/library/download_forms/GenRegForm.pdf) and submit as instructed, or
- call Kristin Parker at MBA University at 425-460-8231.

For more information, please contact [Paula Adams](#), DDES Public Information and Records Officer, at 206-296-6682, or [Kristin Parker](#), Education Coordinator for the Master Builders of King and Snohomish Counties, at 425-460-8231.

Agenda for Real Estate and Development Professionals Workshops  
Nov. 19 and Dec. 3, 2009

9:00 – 9:15 am.....	Welcome
9:15 – 10:45 am .....	Customer service tools at DDES <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Records Center</li><li>• Free technical support</li><li>• Pre-application meetings</li><li>• Web demo, including parcel search</li><li>• Demo on using the Zoning Code</li></ul>
10:45 – 11:30 am .....	Permit review stations overview
11:30 am – 12:20 pm .....	Critical areas and the permit review process
12:20 – 1:30 pm .....	Lunch break
1:30 – 2:20 pm.....	Septic and plumbing permits
2:20 – 3:00 pm.....	Helping the permit process flow smoothly
3:00 – 3:45 pm.....	The Code Enforcement process
4:00 pm .....	Adjourn

Alternate formats available: Call 206-296-6600 or TTY Relay 711